

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 1-4. (Cancelled)

1 4. (Currently Amended) A method, provided by an institutional telephone
2 system, of managing telephone activity between a calling party and a called party,
3 wherein the calling party is an institutional party and the called party is a non-institutional
4 party, the method comprising: A method according to claim 2, wherein the method-
5 further comprises:
6 providing an account for the calling party, wherein the account comprises
7 calling party entitlements, at least some entitlements based on the
8 calling party's class;
9 creating an institutional communication connection with an institutional
10 terminal following initiation by the calling party, wherein the
11 institutional communication connection comprises an external
12 communication request from the calling party, the communication
13 request sufficient to establish communication between the calling party
14 and the called party;
15 identifying the calling party;
16 analyzing the external communication request received from the calling party
17 to determine its called party parameters;
18 comparing the called party parameters to the calling party entitlements to
19 determine whether the calling party is entitled to communicate with
20 the called party and denying the external communication request if the
21 comparing returns a negative result; and
22 determining whether the account is active and denying the external
23 communication request if the determining returns a negative result;
24 placing the calling party on hold;
25 establishing communication with the called party;

26 calculating a rate to charge the called party for the communication;
27 announcing the rate to the called party;
28 prompting the called party for acceptance or refusal of the rate;
29 receiving a response from the called party; and
30 establishing communication between the calling party and the called party
31 based on the response.

1 5. (Cancelled)

1 6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 2, wherein the
2 comparing comprises:
3 identifying the institutional terminal; and
4 determining whether the calling party is entitled to use the institutional
5 terminal,
6 wherein the communication is denied if the determining returns a negative
7 result.

1 7. (Cancelled)

1 8. (Currently Amended) A method, provided by an institutional telephone
2 system, of managing telephone activity between a calling party and a called party,
3 wherein the calling party is an institutional party and the called party is a non-institutional
4 party, the method comprising: A method according to claim 2, wherein the method
5 further comprises:
6 providing an account for the calling party, wherein the account comprises
7 calling party entitlements, at least some entitlements based on the
8 calling party's class;
9 creating an institutional communication connection with an institutional
10 terminal following initiation by the calling party, wherein the
11 institutional communication connection comprises an external
12 communication request from the calling party, the communication

13 request sufficient to establish communication between the calling party
14 and the called party;
15 identifying the calling party;
16 analyzing the external communication request received from the calling party
17 to determine its called party parameters;
18 comparing the called party parameters to the calling party entitlements to
19 determine whether the calling party is entitled to communicate with
20 the called party and denying the external communication request if the
21 comparing returns a negative result; and
22 establishing the communication based on the comparing;
23 determining whether the account is active and denying the external
24 communication request if the determining returns a negative result;
25 placing the calling party on hold;
26 initiating the connection with the called party;
27 detecting completion of the connection;
28 providing identification of the calling party to the called party;
29 prompting the called party for acceptance or refusal of communication with
30 the calling party; and
31 receiving a response from the called party to the prompting,
32 wherein the response determines whether the calling party and the called party
33 are connected.

1 9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 2, wherein the
2 method further comprises providing the called party with an option to prohibit any future
3 calls from the calling party.

1 10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 2, wherein the
2 method further comprises providing the called party with an option to prohibit future
3 calls from a location of the calling party.

1 11. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 2, wherein the
2 method
3 further comprises replaying a call origination message to the called party.

1 12. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 2, wherein the
2 account contains data representative of telephone numbers.

1 13. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 2, wherein the
2 account contains data representative of personal identities.

1 14. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 3, wherein the
2 account contains data indicating whether to record a communication from the calling
3 party.

1 15. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 3, wherein the
2 account contains data indicating whether to record a communication to the called party.

1 16. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 3, wherein the
2 account contains data indicating whether to monitor a communication from the calling
3 party.

1 17. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 3, wherein the
2 account contains data indicating whether to monitor the institutional terminal.

1 18. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 3, wherein the
2 account contains data indicating whether to monitor a communication to predetermined
3 telephone numbers.

1 19. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 3, wherein the
2 account contains data indicating whether to monitor a communication to the called party.

1 20. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 3, wherein the
2 account contains data indicating a called party to whom communications should be not
3 recorded.

1 21. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 3, wherein the
2 method further comprises providing administrative control to initiate recording of the
3 communication.

1 22. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 3, wherein the
2 method further comprises providing administrative control to initiate administrative
3 monitoring of the communication.

1 23. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 3, wherein the
2 method further comprises providing administrative control to terminate the
3 communication.

1 24. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 3, wherein the
2 method further comprises monitoring the communication for a fraud detection event.

1 25. (Cancelled)

1 26. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 3, wherein the
2 method further comprises storing, in the account, data representative of the
3 communication.

1 27. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 3, wherein the
2 method further comprises storing a keyword in the account.

1 28. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 27, wherein the
2 method further comprises monitoring the communication for the keyword.

1 29. (Cancelled)

1 30. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 29, wherein the
2 identifying comprises biometric voice verification, and wherein the biometric voice
3 verification occurs continuously during the communication.

1 31. (Currently Amended) A method, provided by an institutional telephone
2 system, of managing telephone activity between a calling party and a called party,
3 wherein the calling party is an institutional party and the called party is a non-institutional
4 party, the method comprising: A method according to claim 29, wherein the biometric-
5 voice verification comprises:

6 providing an account for the calling party, wherein the account comprises
7 calling party entitlements, at least some entitlements based on the
8 calling party's class;
9 creating an institutional communication connection with an institutional
10 terminal following initiation by the calling party, wherein the
11 institutional communication connection comprises an external
12 communication request from the calling party, the communication
13 request sufficient to establish communication between the calling party
14 and the called party;
15 identifying the calling party;
16 analyzing the external communication request received from the calling party
17 to determine its called party parameters;
18 comparing the called party parameters to the calling party entitlements to
19 determine whether the calling party is entitled to communicate with
20 the called party and denying the external communication request if the
21 comparing returns a negative result; and
22 determining whether the account is active and denying the external
23 communication request if the determining returns a negative result;
24 digitizing a first sample of the calling party;
25 storing the first sample;

26 digitizing a second sample of the calling party from the communication;
27 storing the second sample; and
28 comparing the first sample to the second sample for verifying identification of
29 the calling party.

1 32. (Currently Amended) A method, provided by an institutional telephone
2 system, of managing telephone activity between a calling party and a called party,
3 wherein the calling party is an institutional party and the called party is a non-institutional
4 party, the method comprising: A method according to claim 29, wherein the biometric-
5 voice verification comprises:
6 providing an account for the calling party, wherein the account comprises
7 calling party entitlements, at least some entitlements based on the
8 calling party's class;
9 creating an institutional communication connection with an institutional
10 terminal following initiation by the calling party, wherein the
11 institutional communication connection comprises an external
12 communication request from the calling party, the communication
13 request sufficient to establish communication between the calling party
14 and the called party;
15 identifying the calling party;
16 analyzing the external communication request received from the calling party
17 to determine its called party parameters;
18 comparing the called party parameters to the calling party entitlements to
19 determine whether the calling party is entitled to communicate with
20 the called party and denying the external communication request if the
21 comparing returns a negative result; and
22 determining whether the account is active and denying the external
23 communication request if the determining returns a negative result;
24 digitizing a first sample of the called party;
25 storing the first sample;
26 identifying the called party;

27 digitizing a second sample of the called party from the communication;
28 storing the second sample; and
29 comparing the first sample to the second sample for verifying
30 identification of the called party.

1 33. (Currently Amended) A method, provided by an institutional telephone
2 system, of managing telephone activity between a calling party and a called party,
3 wherein the calling party is an institutional party and the called party is a non-institutional
4 party, the method comprising: A method according to claim 29, wherein the biometric-
5 voice verification comprises:
6 providing an account for the calling party, wherein the account comprises
7 calling party entitlements, at least some entitlements based on the
8 calling party's class;
9 creating an institutional communication connection with an institutional
10 terminal following initiation by the calling party, wherein the
11 institutional communication connection comprises an external
12 communication request from the calling party, the communication
13 request sufficient to establish communication between the calling party
14 and the called party;
15 identifying the calling party;
16 analyzing the external communication request received from the calling party
17 to determine its called party parameters;
18 comparing the called party parameters to the calling party entitlements to
19 determine whether the calling party is entitled to communicate with
20 the called party and denying the external communication request if the
21 comparing returns a negative result; and
22 determining whether the account is active and denying the external
23 communication request if the determining returns a negative result;
24 identifying the called party;
25 digitizing a first sample of the calling party;
26 storing the first sample;

27 digitizing a second sample of the called party;
28 storing the second sample;
29 digitizing a third sample of the communication;
30 storing the third sample; and
31 comparing the first sample and the second sample to the third sample.

1 34. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 33, wherein the
2 comparing detects an unauthorized party to the communication.

1 35. (Cancelled)

1 36. (Currently Amended) A method, provided by an institutional telephone
2 system, of managing telephone activity, between a calling party and a called party,
3 wherein the calling party is an institutional party and the called party is a non-institutional
4 party, the method comprising A method according to claim 35, wherein the method
5 further comprises:
6 providing a plurality of institutional terminals, a plurality of telephone lines,
7 an administrative database, and an administrative interface, wherein
8 the database comprises an individual account for each calling party
9 and wherein each account provides individual entitlements to the
10 calling party;
11 placing a communication request to the called party from one of the
12 institutional terminals by the calling party, wherein the placing
13 comprises entering numeric data into one of the institutional terminals;
14 accepting the communication request;
15 identifying the calling party;
16 analyzing the communication request to determine parameters;
17 comparing the parameters with entitlements;
18 conditionally establishing communication between the called party and the
19 calling party;
20 providing a digital recording buffer and a digital mass storage device;
21 monitoring the system for active calls; and

22 recording the active calls in the buffer.

1 37. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 36, wherein the
2 recording is continuous.

1 38. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 36, wherein the
2 method further comprises:
3 monitoring an active call for a fraud detection event;
4 storing the buffer contents in the mass storage device if the monitoring returns
5 a positive result; and
6 recording the remainder of the active call in the mass storage device if the
7 monitoring returns a positive result.

1 39-40. (Cancelled)

1 41. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 46 [[40]], wherein one of the
2 permissible parameters is a telephone number.

1 42. (Cancelled)

1 43. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 46 [[42]], wherein the
2 screening component is further configured to perform biometric voice identification on
3 the sample generated by the digital conversion component and further configured to
4 confirm an identity of the calling party based upon the results of the biometric voice
5 identification.

1 44. (Cancelled)

1 45. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 46 [[42]], wherein the database
2 stores the digital sample in a file associated with the caller account.

1 46. (Currently Amended) A system for managing institutional telephone
2 activity between a calling party and a called party, wherein a calling party is an
3 institutional party and a called party is a non-institutional party, comprising: The system-
4 of claim 44
5 an interface component configured to accept an external communication
6 request from a calling party, the communication request having at least
7 one called party parameter, and the communication request sufficient
8 to establish communication between the calling party and the called
9 party;
10 a database storing a plurality of accounts associated with calling parties, each
11 account storing permissible calling party parameters for each calling
12 party, wherein at least some calling party parameters are based on the
13 calling party's class; and
14 a screening component in communication with the interface component and
15 the database, configured to read each external communication request,
16 query the database for the permissible calling party parameters
17 associated with the calling party and determine whether at least one
18 called party parameter is a permissible calling party parameter and
19 configured to determine whether the calling party has an active
20 account, the screening component denying the calling party's external
21 communication request if the active account determination returns a
22 negative result, wherein one of the permissible calling party
23 parameters is a telephone number, and wherein the account includes a
24 suspicious word associated with the calling party and the screening
25 component is further configured to scan a digital sample for a
26 suspicious word;
27 a communications component, in communication with the screening
28 component, and configured to process the communications request
29 following determination by the screening component that the
30 communication request contains permissible parameters; and

31 a digital conversion component configured to receive a voice sample from the
32 calling party and convert the voice sample to a digital format, wherein
33 the digital conversion component is further configured store the digital
34 sample in a buffer.